

## Message Text

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12

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAJ-01 SAM-01 IO-14 DRC-01 /117 W

----- 059103

R 071041Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0115

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMCONSUL BELFAST

AMCONSUL EDINBURGH

AMCONSUL LIVERPOOL

UNCLAS LONDON 05606

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, UK

SUBJECT: LOCAL ELECTIONS RESULT IN MODEST CONSERVATIVE  
GAINS

REF: LONDON 5377

1. LONDON'S LOCAL BOROUGH COUNCIL ELECTIONS (FOR 1867  
SEATS IN 32 BUROUGHS) RESULTED IN A NET GAIN FOR THE  
CONSERVATIVES OF 116 SEATS AND FOR THE LIBERALS OF 15.  
LABOR SUFFERED A NET LOSS OF 135 SEATS.

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2. LABOR RETAINED ITS CONTROL OF A MAJORITY OF BOROUGH

COUNCILS AND THE LONDON BOROUGH ASSOCIATION. THE CONSERVATIVES REGAINED CONTROL OF THREE BOROUGH COUNCILS LOST TO LABOR IN 1971. THE LIBERALS MORE THAN DOUBLED THEIR REPRESENTATION ON BOROUGH COUNCILS, BUT THIS WAS WELL BELOW THEIR OBJECTIVE.

3. THE LONDON ELECTION RESULTS WERE NOT EVEN THROUGHOUT THE CITY AND THEY DO NOT PROVIDE A CLEAR INDICATION OF ANY SIGNIFICANT CHANGE SINCE THE FEBRUARY GENERAL ELECTION. THE CONSERVATIVES DID NOT REALISTICALLY HOPE TO GAIN A MAJORITY OF THE COUNCILS AND THERE IS SOME REASON TO THINK THEY WERE RELIEVED TO HAVE DONE AS WELL AS THEY DID. OF THE TWO MAJOR PARTIES, LABOR SUFFERED THE GREATER LOSS AND MUST BE MOST DISAPPOINTED THAT VOTER RESPONSE TO ITS NATIONAL PROGRAMS (E.G., RENT FREEZE, FOOD SUBSIDIES, ETC.) WAS NOT MORE FAVORABLE. IN ANY

EVENT, LABOR DID NOT GET ANY ENCOURAGEMENT TO CALL AN EARLY GENERAL ELECTION.

SOHM

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ELECTIONS, POLITICAL PARTIES, PUBLIC ATTITUDES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 07 MAY 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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30 JUN 2005

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**To:** STATE  
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